# **Technology Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

### October 11, 2007

The Technology Advisory Committee met on October 11, 2007 in City Hall, Council Chambers.

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Meeting called to Order at 10:10 a.m.

II. Roll Call		
_x_ Chris Price – Chair _x_ Mike Jamerson Steve Baker	_x_ Mark Farr Mark McHolland _x_ Jim Hartsook	_x_ Oakel Hardy _x_ Georgia Miller
Invited Guests:  John Conley – Sm	ithville	
Tony Walton – Sn	nithville	
Other Attendees:		

#### III. Open Issues

Stan Gamso, Counsel Brent Engle, InfoComm

**Gehring Wrap Up** - Brent commented that at the last Board Of Works meeting Sherry was there and had reported that Gehring completed all their work. Brent indicated that he had not received confirmation from the City Engineer, Steve Ruble, that such is the case.

Oakel reported that there were no further outstanding issues for Gehring, and as a result, he was going to present their final invoice for approval.

**Wireless RFP** - Brent reported that he has prepared a draft of the wireless RFP for consideration by the Committee. Brent has spoken with the representatives of the City, the Fire Department, Police Department and City Utilities, and as of last year, all had expressed an interest in participating in the RFP process, more specifically, in obtaining wireless service for their respective entities. He noted that in a follow-up within the last 30 days, City Utilities still continues to express an interest as does CPD. The Fire Department, however, has purchased a Motorola Canopy system.

In Brent's opinion it would be important for TAC to advise as to the implementation methodology. One option would be that the system be completely installed before it is released to the public for use or, in the alternative, a phased development and implementation.

After a detailed and lengthy discussion by Committee members, it was agreed that a phased development program and contract would be the most profitable and best installation and use of dollars because any phased development program will be styled and designed to generate appropriate revenues that can be used for further development funding.

Questions were raised with respect to the budget or the amounts that could be budgeted for the City's acquisition of wireless service. Questions also arose as to what public sites would be available for the use of transmitters and/or towers. Oakel commented that he and City Engineer Ruble could provide a list. There was also discussion with respect to the basis for the RFP, i.e., public access or public safety. After further discussion, the Committee agreed that the primary goal should be to include the Police Department, City Utilities, the Fire Department and a component of Economic Development.

With respect to the school corporation, Mike Jamerson questioned who would have access and control over the wireless service. His primary concern has to do with content control within the schools. He further noted that the BCSC will eventually require and insist upon the ability to have access to the wireless for the purpose of limiting content for the various school students who may use the system.

Concluding discussion, it was agreed that a pre-meeting should be held with City officials, fire and police officials as well as Economic Development to discuss the interested parties' coverage requirements and funding and/or source of funding for the purpose of determining cost limitations of a wireless system. Furthermore there needs to be more research up front before the RFP is released. The thought was that the more front end work that can be done in developing a plan and assessing the economic needs, the better the end product would be for the community.

Brent committed to providing copies of the Beech Grove wireless system including their maps and lists of assets for discussion purposes.

The chairman then suggested that any further discussion with respect to modifications and/or revisions to the draft of the RFP be tabled until next month's meeting with the hope that a pre-meeting can be had with all the appropriate city entities.

# IV. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

The committee reviewed the minutes from the September 13, 2007 meeting, and counsel was directed to modify the Gehring progress update specifically paragraph 3 so the last sentence of the third paragraph reads "That amount was \$87,000 under Gehring's

budget".

With that modification Georgia moved, Oakel seconded that the minutes be approved and adopted, and the motion passed upon a unanimous vote.

There was also discussion and follow up with respect to the location of the reels of conduit that were left over from the installation. Oakel reported that the reels are still in Gehring's possession.

#### V. New Business

**Utility Fiber Run** - Oakel reported that they will be preparing an RFP to provide the fiber services to City Utilities based on the direction from Counsel and the State Board Of Accounts that extension to the existing Smithville contract/conduit system must be conducted through the public bidding process.

As to other matters involving the City, Oakel commented that the T1 service with AT&T expired approximately three or four months ago as had the CENTREX telephone service. Oakel reported that he has met with Smithville to discuss their services, and it will take another six to eight months before Smithville can bring dial tone service to Columbus. Their T1 service is not practical at the present time. However, the City has great interest in moving forward with Smithville employing them as a phone service provider as well as a digital service provider to the City and will continue to work with them extensively. However the City deemed it in its best interest to extend its CENTREX service for another year with AT&T and will follow-up with Smithville within the next few weeks to discuss possible T1 service. Oakel reported that he will provide a further update on that service at next month's meeting.

Smithville Relationship Management - John Conley of Smithville gave an update with respect to their current services. He reported that they are placing the interduct in the existing conduit. He knew there were no racks in the manholes, and they believed that it was important to have those installed as they can keep the conduit and any other equipment they may have in the manhole out of water should water accumulate in the bottom of the manhole. John reported that there will be costs associated with that but at the present time Smithville will proceed with the installation and hopefully settle up with the City in the future. He further noted that they will have to have some locating posts installed, and he has been working extensively with Oakel to arrange for that.

It is Smithville's plan to first pull fiber through the conduit to bring the airport on line first, then the downtown, and finally the hospital.

John also reported that they have two clients currently signed up for service. The first is TLS who has signed up for service from Columbus to the Henry Street terminal in Indianapolis at approximately \$1,000.00 per month. They recently signed a contract with CityNet, who is a carrier's carrier, for \$1,200 per month for a 10-year period.

Smithville has also met with the representatives of IUPUC in Columbus. They have a prior relationship with IU, and he reports that there conversations are progressing. They are looking forward to having a contract finalized within the next week or so but certainly before next month's meeting.

John also reported working with IVY Tech, and IVY Tech reports that they will need to issue an RFP before they can enter into a contract with Smithville. Committee member Mark Farr also reported that that is part of the bidding and contracting process under which IVY Tech must function.

John also reported that they met with the City and have identified six potential sites for future services predominantly through the public safety entities all running service lines to City Hall.

John committed to ensure that accounting reports and monthly reports would be available in the future.

There was general discussion among the Committee members as to how best to develop and support Smithville through either the Committee and/or the City. There was also discussion as to how to help foster the relationship and who the players should be. Oakel committed to step up and be the representative of the Committee and the City and to assist Smithville in obtaining whatever information is necessary and meeting with the appropriate parties within the community in order to foster this relationship. There was also discussion about the potential of using and involving the business liaison representative from Economic Development. Oakel indicated acting as this representative is not something he can do over the long term, but he would be more than happy to undertake it in the short term.

**Other Business** – counsel's claim was presented for consideration. There being no questions, Georgia moved for approval, Oakel seconded, and upon unanimous vote, the claim for counsel's services for the prior month was proved.

## VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mike moved and Chris seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m..

Submitted by,

Stanley A. Gamso, Counsel